

ed, so as to allow space enough for their expansion on being immersed in the spirit, and for the circulation of the latter through them."

The same plan may be followed in making infusions; but the macerating bag should be open as the coffee-baggin, and the boiling water poured on the solids to be infused in a vessel having a spout through which the infusion may be found when cold.

INSANITY COMPLICATED WITH ASTHMA.

A large number of cases of insanity, complicated with asthma, have come under my care. Asthmatics are more frequently insane than their proportion in society would admit, if their disease had no agency, as a cause, in producing insanity. This complication does not necessarily interfere to prevent the recovery of patients affected with this disease; yet I apprehend it is an impediment in the way of a cure. There is often a marked coincidence between the paroxysms of asthma and the periods of excitement in periodical insanity. It is an interesting subject of inquiry, whether the circulation of black blood to the brain, in asthma, predisposes to the excitement of mental disease. Facts connected with it would be exceedingly interesting and instructive.—*Dr. Woodward's Annual Report.*

STETHOSCOPIC SOUND PRODUCED BY TÆNIA.

Prof. Piorry relates the case of a woman affected by Tænia in whom, on auscultation, a peculiar characteristic sound was heard, very different from, and weaker than, that produced by borborygmi. This was heard by several persons, and all were unanimous in stating, that it was evidently produced by a slender body moving about by jerks, which lasted several seconds. According to one, it resembled somewhat the hydraeric murmur, with very minute bubbles, and was tremulous; according to another, it was like that caused by a small body moving rapidly in a liquid; to a third, like the sound of the rolling of a carriage, heard at a distance; to a fourth, like a peculiar tremor, or undulation. This noise was heard during several days, but only when the patient felt the tænia move in the intestine. Finally, more positive results were obtained by immediate, than by mediate, auscultation.—*Med. Times*, 16th, Nov. 1844.

ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF PURGATIVES BY THE ENDERMIC METHOD.

In many acute and chronic diseases, intense constipation exists; purgatives given are immediately rejected, and enemas cannot penetrate, whilst manual operations are useless when the fæces are contained in the colon. In these cases, Dr. Salgues proposes sprinkling different purgative powders on the skin, deprived of its epidermis by means of a blister, and quotes several cases, in which evacuations were thus obtained. The conclusions to which he has been led by experience are: that in many cases the practitioner may have recourse to purgatives by the endermic method, to overcome constipation, which may give rise to serious, if not fatal, accidents; that colocynth is more powerful, and ought to be preferred (dose from grs. v. to grs.); aloes